

# NEWS RELEASE

From the Office of the Indiana Attorney General

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## **Washington, Indiana Osteopath Sited by Attorney General for Alleged Violations of State Licensing Laws**

Indianapolis, IN – The Indiana Attorney General’s Office has filed a disciplinary complaint against the medical license of John C. Roberts, D.O. for alleged violations of the state’s medical licensing laws. The complaint was filed with the Medical Licensing Board of Indiana.

“This physician broke the boundaries of a patient-doctor relationship and ventured into diagnosing mental health disorders and providing treatments without the appropriate license necessary for such work,” Attorney General Steve Carter said. “Venturing outside the scope of a professional license is dangerous and can result in harm to patients, as it has done in at least one instance.”

The state’s complaint alleges that the Roberts provided treatment of mental health disorders, and prescribed a drug regimen to treat the disorders without a psychiatry license. Roberts also is alleged to have started a sexual relationship with a patient that lasted three years and induced the patient to have sex with him in order to treat her emotional illness. He is also alleged to have conducted inappropriate surgeries, including a hysterectomy and a tubal ligation.

In 2004, the patient won a \$500,000 judgment against Roberts after filing a medical malpractice claim with the Department of Insurance. A medical review panel concluded that the osteopath’s actions resulted in harm to the patient.

The attorney general’s complaint asks the Board to take disciplinary action against Roberts’ license for violations of Indiana’s standards of competent practice, and seeks up to \$1000 per violation in penalties. A hearing date has not been set.

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